Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). As per the MOU signed by HZL and CSIR, HZL has the first option for use of technology. The Board of HZL has approved the preparation of a Techno-economic Feasibility Report.

Schemes for ocean development

3621. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any schemes/programmes for the development of the ocean in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, details of funds allocated to undertake Ocean Development programmes during the last three years year-wise, till date; and

(c) what are the details of the physical targets achieved during the said period, year-wise and programme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Details of some of the major programmes are given below:

- The monitoring of marine pollution in the coastal waters of Andhra Pradesh is going on from the year 1990-91. Studies for marine pollution are made at Krishnapatnam, Nizamapatnam, Vishakhapatnam Harbour & Steel Plant, Kakinada Bay, Machilipatnam and Kalingapatnam.
- The project on development of GIS based Information System for management of the critical habitats of Coringa mangroves has provided the required data on various environmental aspects.
- Under the determination of Sea Water Use Classification for coastal waters project, both primary and secondary data on environmental parameters collected at Vishakhapatnam & Krishnapatnam.
- Data was collected to determine No Impact Zone of Coringa from developmental & other activities.
- Information on Potential Fishing Zones derived from Satellite Observation is provided to the coastal fishermen through 17 nodal points spread over Andhra coast.
- Assessment of Marine Living Resources in the Indian EEZ is done

for data on deep sea fishery resources, environment and productivity patterns, deep scattering layers (DSL), harmful algal blooms, benthos of shelf waters of East Coast and harvesting technologies through exclusive cruises of the Fishery Oceanographic Research Vessel Sagar Sampada.

Ocean Science and Technology Cell on Marine Culture System at Andhra University is conducting studies/surveys on pearl oysters along Andhra coast for commercial exploitation, management of brood stock of tiger prawns, and management of diseases in acquaculture.

All these activities are taken up as national programmes and it is not practicable to apportion the estimate of expenditure for Andhra Pradesh.

Seismic Survey of continental shelf

3622. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry propose to issue tenders for a seismic survey, to map the continental shelf along the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal;

(b) whether Sri Lanka is also claiming the same continental shelf as its own; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) All States Parties to United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) including India and Sri Lanka are entitled to claim continental shelf in accordance with the provisions of the Convention. Neither India nor Sri Lanka filed their claims so far.

Rail bridges built by the Britishers

3623. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rail bridges built by the Britishers, which have completed their life;

(b) the number of rail bridges, as an alternative, which have since been completed and are under construction, separately;